

# Congressman Joseph Crowley Report from Washington

Spring/Summer 2000



### Congressman Joseph Crowley

### Working for Strong Gun Control to Keep Firearms Out of the Hands of Kids and Criminals



Congressman Crowley and U.S. Secretary of Education Richard Riley (center left) address school safety and modernization at PS. 19 in Oueens. He is joined (from left to right by CSD 24 Superintendent Joseph Culina, Schools Chancellor Harold Levy, Richard Farkas of the UFT, Queens Borough President Claire Schulman, Assemblyman Ivan LaFayetet and children of PS. 19.

#### Crowley fights for safer streets and schools.

- Every year, over 5 million Americans attend more than 4,400 gun shows nationwide. Firearms bought at gun shows are not subject to background checks. Congressman Crowley wants to change that. When the House debated a juvenile crime bill, he voted to support a three-day waiting period for background checks for firearms purchased at gun shows. Unfortunately, the Majority Party refuses to pass this common sense propose.
- Right now, anyone can buy a gun over the internet, including convicted felons, rapists or even teenagers. Congressman Crowley introduced the Electronic Commerc Crime Prevention and Protection Act (H.R. 3020) to change this. His bill will stop the sale of guns, ammunition and explosives over the internet.
- Bake sales and car washes are great fundraising tools for community groups. Gun raffles are not. Groups around the country have been raffling of firnarms as a way to make money and increase membership. Congressman Crowley introduced legislation, the Community Protection From Firearms Giveaways Act (H.R. 4559), to require background checks for all guns raffled off for fundraising purposes.



Congressman Crowley discusses his efforts in Congress to pass a strong Patients' Bill of Rights at the North Flushing Senior Center in College Point.

#### Working for a Strong Patients' Bill of Rights

Last year, the House of Representatives passed the bi-partisan Patients' Bill of Rights. This bill provides protection for consumers in managed care plans by:

- Guaranteeing coverage for emergency care.
- Ensuring access to specialty care.
- Providing consumers with the right to hold insurance companies accountable for their quality of care.

As Freshman Class President, Congressman Crowley led his colleagues in passing a strong Patients' Bill of Rights by a margin of 275-151. While this legislation received overwhelming bi-partisan support, some in the Majority party who are defending the HMO and insurance company special interests, fertise to negotiate with the United States Senate to pass final legislation to be signed into law by the President.

As a Democratic Whip and Member of the Leadership Message Group, Congressman Crowley has joined his colleagues to tell the Majority party that they can not delay enacting common sense, health care protections for New York consumers.

Congressman Crowley will fight to pass a strong Patients' Bill of Rights into law.

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Improving Women's Health

Congressman Crowley Sponsors Legislation to Expand Breast and Cervical Cancer Testing

Currently, the Federal government providee free screening for low-income women to help detect breast and cervical cancer. But if a woman is diagnosed with cancer, uninsured or underinsured women have to pay for treatment themselves. Congressman Crowley is committed to working to eliminate barriers which keep low income women from getting the healthcare they need to save their livos.

On May 9th, the United States House of Representatives passed the Breast and Cervical Cancer Care Act sponsored by Congressman Joseph Crowley. This bill will expand access to breast and cervical cancer treatment for women who are covered by Medicaid to help save women's lives.